

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1-51. (Cancelled)

52. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising particles comprising a ~~first~~ polymeric material, ~~and~~ a biologically active agent capable of generating a protective immune response in an animal or a human, a cationic pluronic and N-carboxymethyl chitosan or a salt thereof ~~at a surface of the particles~~.

53. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 52, wherein the particles are surface-modified or coated with the N-carboxymethyl chitosan or ~~[[a]]~~ the salt thereof.

54. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 52, wherein the N-carboxymethyl chitosan or ~~[[a]]~~ the salt thereof is adsorbed onto ~~[[the]]~~ a surface of the particles.

55. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 52, wherein the particles ~~comprise~~ are microspheres~~[[,]]~~ or microparticles ~~or liposomes~~.

56. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 52, wherein the ~~first material is a~~ polymeric material ~~which~~ has a molecular weight of 100kDa or more.

57. (Cancelled)

58. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 52, wherein the ~~first~~-polymeric material ~~[[comprises]]~~ is poly-(L-lactide).

59. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 52, wherein the biologically active agent is capable of generating the protective immune response against tetanus, anthrax, diphtheria or *Yersinia pestis*.

60. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 52, wherein the biologically active agent comprises a combination of the V antigen of *Y. pestis* or an immunologically active fragment thereof, and the F1 antigen of *Y. pestis* or an immunologically active fragment thereof.

61. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 52, further comprising one or more chemical compounds selected from the group consisting of a polyamino acid, a vitamin, a vitamin derivative, ~~a cationic pluronic~~, a clathrate, a complexing agent, a cetrimide, an S-layer protein, a methyl-glucamine, a cationic polypeptide, a cationic polyamino acid, and a quaternary ammonium compound.

62. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an immunostimulating amount of N-carboxymethyl chitosan or a salt thereof and particles comprising a ~~[[first]] polymeric material, a cationic pluronic,~~ and a biologically active agent capable of generating a protective immune response in an animal or a human.

63. (Currently Amended) ~~The composition of claim 62, wherein~~ A pharmaceutical composition comprising particle comprising a polymeric material, a cationic pluronic and a biologically active agent capable of generating a protective immune response in an animal or a human, wherein the particles are surface modified or coated with at least a part of the immunostimulating amount of N-carboxymethyl chitosan or a salt thereof, and the biologically active agent is adsorbed onto the coated particles.

64-65. (Cancelled)

66. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 62, wherein the ~~first material is a polymeric material which~~ has a molecular weight of 100kDa or more.

67. (Cancelled).

68. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 62, wherein the ~~first material comprises~~ polymeric material is poly-(L-lactide).

69. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 62, wherein the biologically active agent is capable of generating the protective immune response against tetanus, anthrax, diphtheria or *Yersinia pestis*.

70. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 62, wherein the biologically active agent comprises a combination of the V antigen of *Y. pestis* or an immunologically active fragment thereof, and the F1 antigen of *Y. pestis* or an immunologically active fragment thereof.

71. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 62, further comprising one or more chemical compounds selected from the group consisting of a polyamino acid, a vitamin, a vitamin derivative, ~~a cationic pluronic~~, a clathrate, a complexing agent, a cetrimide, an S-layer protein, a methyl-glucamine, a cationic polypeptide, a cationic polyamino acid, and a quaternary ammonium compound.